

HITLER'S SIXTEEN POINTS

Here Hitler's sixteen point plan sets out:

- (1) Danzig, on account of its purely German character and the unanimous will of its population, shall return to the Reich unconditionally and forthwith.
- (2) The Polish Corridor shall decide for itself whether it desires to belong to Germany or Poland, for which a plebiscite shall be held. Polish police, military and other authorities must leave the Corridor at the shortest possible notice except Gdynia, which unconditionally remains Polish. The exact German-Polish frontier between Gdynia and Germany must be determined by agreement between Berlin and Warsaw.
- (3) Those entitled to vote in the plebiscite will be all Germans and Poles resident in the Corridor since January 1, 1918, or born therein. All Germans expelled from the Corridor or forced to leave will return in order to vote.
- (4) In order to guarantee free voting, an international commission will be constituted similar to that in the Saar plebiscite. Its representatives shall be from France and Britain and the commission will exercise supervisory rights in the territory.
- (5) The plebiscite is not to take place before a lapse of 12 months.
- (6) During that period Germany's lines of access to East Prussia and Poland's access to the sea is to be secured by rail and road.
- (7) The plebiscite is to be determined by a simple majority.
- (8) In view of the results of the plebiscite, there is to be an extra-territorial traffic zone. For instance, the Reich would have a motor road and a four track railway line connecting it to East Prussia, but if the plebiscite went in favour of Germany, Poland would have extra-territorial and rail connection with Gdynia.
- (9) In the event of the Corridor being returned to the Polish then would be an exchange of populations.
- (10) Any special rights claimed by Poland are to be compensated for by similar rights given to Germany in Gdynia.
- (11) Danzig and Gdynia are to be purely commercial towns and not fortified.
- (12) There is to be a settlement of complaints of the German and Polish minorities by submission to an international Commission.
- (13) Germany and Poland will mutually agree to repair and recompense all economic damages caused by their respective minorities since 1918.
- (14) Minorities remaining in either country after the plebiscite will, by mutual agreement, be exempted from military service and enjoy full social and cultural freedom.
- (15) For the settlement of possible complaints among the German and Polish minorities, both contracting parties agree that these complaints should be submitted to the international Commission, which will investigate such cases on its merits.
- (16) In the event of acceptance of these proposals, Germany and Poland declare themselves ready to order and carry out immediate demobilisation of their respective armies.